

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09

OES-07 /056 W

-----016025 231239Z /53

R 230959Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9388

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 JIDDA 5836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ATRN, SA

SUBJ: PORT AUTHORITY WARNS SHIPPERS: HEAVY PENALTIES FOR  
DELAY OF VESSELS

1. SUMMARY: SAUDI ARABIAN PORT AUTHORITY AGAIN HAS WARNED  
SHIPPERS THAT IT WILL ENFORCE STRINGENTLY REGULATIONS FOR  
UNLOADING/LOADING AT KINGDOM'S SEAPORTS. STIFF PENALTIES  
WILL BE IMPOSED FOR UNNECESSARY DELAYS IN CLEARING BERTHS.  
END SUMMARY.

2. ANTICIPATING AN INCREASE IN SHIPPING AND POSSIBLE ATTEND-  
ANT DELAYS FOR VESSELS AT JIDDA PORT, THE SAUDI ARABIAN  
PORT AUTHORITY HAS AGAIN WARNED SHIPPINGS AGENTS TO ADHERE TO  
EXISTING REGULATIONS CONCERNING CARGO DEBARKATION/ EMBARK-  
ATION AT THE KINGDOM'S SEAPORTS.

3. ONE REGULATION IN PARTICULAR, THE REQUIREMENT FOR  
TIMBER AND LUMBER TO BE PALLETIZED OR TIED IN SECURE  
BUNDLES TO FACILITATE FORKLIFT HANDLINGS, HAS BEEN  
EMPHASIZED IN WARNING. TIMBER AND LUMBER CONSIGNED TO  
JIDDA, ARRIVING IN UNITED BUNDLES OR NOT PALLETIZED AND  
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WITHOUT PLASTIC COVERING, WILL BE SUBJECT TO PENALTIES  
AND POSSIBLE REFUSAL FOR OFFLOADING BY PORT OFFICIALS.

4. BECAUSE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND THE HEAVY FINANCIAL  
PENALTIES INVOKED FOR VESSEL DELAYS, THE EMBASSY REPORTS  
THE FULL INSTRUCTION TO SHIPPING AGENTS AT JIDDA: QUOTE.  
"IN VIEW OF THE RISING NUMBER OF VESSELS CALLING AT

THE KINGDOM'S SEAPORTS AND THEIR ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN COMING MONTHS, THE PORT AUTHORITY HAS URGED SHIPPING AGENTS TO DOUBLE EFFORTS AND MOBILIZE ALL POTENTIAL TO MEET THE EXPECTED PRESSURE AND TO COMPLY WITH PREVIOUS CIRCULARS AND INSTRUCTIONS WHICH ARE SUMMERIZED IN THE FOLLOWING:

"1. A VESSEL SHALL BE READY FOR BERTHING OR MOVEMENT FROM AND TO THE PIERS AT ANY TIME AS SOON AS IT IS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.

"2. THE VESSEL'S HOLDS MUST BE OPEN AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION AND ALL ITS MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT MUST BE READY FOR OPERATION AFTER ASCERTAINING THEIR SAFETY AND FITNESS TO CARRY OUT THE LOADING AND UNLOADING OF GOODS.

"3. ROUND - THE - CLOCK OPERATION AT PORTS, INCLUDING THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

"4. VESSELS WHOSE UNLOADING IS COMPLETED DURING THE THIRD SHIFT MUST BE READY TO LEAVE THE PIER IMMEDIATELY AT 5:30 AM. OR BEFORE.

"5. CLEARANCE FOR EMBARKATION OF VESSELS MUST BE MADE WITH THE PASSPORT, COAST GUARD, CUSTOMS OFFICES THREE HOURS BEFORE COMPLETION OF LOADING OR UNLOADING OF A VESSEL, AND THE SHIP'S MACHINERY AND ENGINES MUST BE READY FOR SAILING AT LEAST SIX HOURS BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF UNLOADING. IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT FINES HAVE BEEN DETERMINED.

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MINED FOR SHIPS WHICH ARE LATE IN LEAVING BERTHS AS FOLLOWS:

" A. 100-METER LONG VESSELS SR5,000 FOR EVERY HOUR OF DELAY.

" B. VESSELS WHOSE LENGTH FROM 101-150 METERS WILL BE FINED SR10,000 FOR EVERY HOURS OF DELAY.

" C. VESSELS WHO ARE 151 METERS LONG OR LONGER WILL BE FINED SR15,000 FOR EVERY HOUR OF DELAY.

"6. MERCHANTS WITH DIRECT DELIVERY GOODS ON BOARD VESSELS ARE URGED TO EXPEDITE CLEARANCE OF THEIR GOODS. IN CASE THEY FAIL TO DO SO, THE PORT ADMINISTRATION WILL UNLOAD AND STORE THEIR GOODS BY MEANS OF TRAILERS AND FORKLIFTS AND CHARGE THEM WITH THE COSTS.

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
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USDOC WASHDC

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"7. IN CASE A SHIP DELAYS UNLOADING OR LEAVING  
PEIR BECAUSE OF THE AGENT'S FAULT FOR ANY REASON.  
THE SHIPPING AGENT WILL BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY AND  
THE RESULTANT FINES OR LEGAL PROCEDURES AT THE  
DISCRETION OF THE PORT ADMINISTRATION.

"THE POST AUTHORITY WARNS SHIPPING AGENTS THAT IF  
THEY FAIL TO MEET THEIR RESPONSIBILITY IT WILL  
TAKE THE PUNITIVE MEASURES THAT ARE COMMENSURATE  
WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF SEAPORTS FOR THE NATIONAL  
ECONOMY. ROYAL DIRECTIVES HAVE GIVEN THE PORT  
AUTHORITY THE RIGHT TO IMPOSE VERY HEAVY PENALTIES  
ON THOSE WHO DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IMPEDE THE  
STATE'S EFFORTS TO KEEP SEAPORTS FREE OF CONGES-  
TION." UNQUOTE.

5. COMMENT: THE PORT AUTHORITY AND JIDDA PORT DIRECTORS HAVE  
FINAALLY RECOGNIZED THE FACT THAT THE LULL OF THE  
PREVIOUS THREE MONTHS IS OVER, IN ORDER TO HANDLE THE  
EXPECTED HEAVY INFLOW OF GOODS, STRONG MEASURES WILL BE  
NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE EFFIEIENCY THUS FAR ACHIEVED.  
WAGES FOR PORT WORKERS HAVE REPORTEDLY INCREASED TO  
SR120 PER DAY. THE OVERTIME THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH  
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RAMADAN, DURING WHICH TIME A SIX-HOUR DAY IS OFFICAL,  
WILL FURTHER INCREASE OFFLOADING COSTS. THE PORT  
AUTHORITY, HOWEVER, IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO IMPOSITION  
OF SURCHARGES THAT REFLECT ADVERSELY ON POST EFFICIENCY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** EWWT, ATRN, SA, SAUDI ARABIAN PORT AUTHORITY  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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